

Recently, you may have seen news accounts that the city of San Francisco plans to start releasing illegal immigrants arrested for minor offenses before they can be picked up for deportation. This refusal to cooperate with federal immigration authorities is just another misstep in a long line of actions that needlessly makes it more difficult for federal law enforcement to do their job. It is both unacceptable and illegal under the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996. City governments should not be permitted to unilaterally defy the laws of our country, and I have voted on a number of occasions to deny federal funds to these so called "sanctuary cities."

This year, I have cosponsored [H.R.&nbsp;1134](#) , the Enforce the Law for Sanctuary Cities Act. This legislation was introduced by Representative Duncan Hunter of California and would block funding under the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) to any state or locality that has in place any law, policy, or procedure that impedes the effective and consistent enforcement of immigration laws. As you may know, SCAAP provides federal reimbursement to states and localities for a portion of the costs incurred for incarcerating "undocumented criminal aliens." I strongly believe that cities and states that flout federal law should not be rewarded with federal funding. I will continue to support efforts to stop federal funds from flowing to sanctuary cities.